

of souls. We learn from these considerations that Sleipnir, the eight-footed horse, was originally the incorporation of the idea of death and that Wodan, the leader of the souls, was originally a god of ghosts and king of the other world. The gloomy features of Wodan as the god of the dead gradually gave way to a brighter conception, and he changed into the saviour of the dead and the god of Valhalla, of heaven, to whom even during life his worshipers looked up for health and salvation. We further conclude that the old Yule-tide about the time of Christmas was originally an All Soul's festival. At the end of the year the dead were commemorated, but closely connected with a memorial of the dead was the idea of a transfigured life in a new celestial home, and so the Yule festival which originally may have possessed gloomy features became a festival of joy and could easily be assimilated to the feast of Christ's birth in the new religion.

P. C.

## QOHELETH TO-DAY.

BY WARWICK JAMES PRICE.

"Vanity of vanities!" the Preacher sighed,  
A poet disillusioned by the tide  
Of the swift passing of the burdened days  
Which left vain hopes, and little else beside.

"The ceaseless swing of Time's encircled years,  
"The unending round of grief, joy, smiles, tears,  
"With, at the last, one door to ope and close—  
"No answer to the mystery appears."

Yet is this *all*? Shall man, perplexed, dismayed,  
Cast down his cards before the hand is played?  
Life *is*, and Love, and Truth; a trinity  
To guide us ever onward, unafraid.

The dim to-morrows do not heaven bind;  
To-day enfolds it. If we seek, we find.  
Our joy shall lie in labor bravely wrought,  
Our high reward be serving humankind.

## BOOK REVIEWS.

TRANSLATIONS OF THE BIBLE. By *Bernhard Pick, Ph.D., D.D.* New York: American Bible Society, 1913. Pp. 59.

This little volume contains a carefully compiled bibliography of 653 versions of the Bible, or parts of the Bible, which have been made since the invention of printing. It contains a few versions omitted from the British and Foreign Bible Society's *Historical Catalogue*, and a few later publications, and, generally speaking, serves a purpose which the more laborious and learned work cannot so well perform in being chronologically arranged and compressed into the briefest possible items. Dr. Pick is well known for his painstaking and scholarly work in all lines pertaining to the rise and development of the documents of the Christian religion.

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